
What happens in a successful transition JOURNEY?

Informed families. The Kentucky Early Childhood Transition Project (KECTP) support agencies and families in preparing to transition children from First Steps into preschool and provide guiding principles for other transitions that naturally occur over time. A “Step by Step Guide for Families” is available to assist families with additional “steps. This guide and other helpful information may be obtained from www.ihdi.uky.edu/kectp or ask your First Steps Primary Service Coordinator.



For transition to be successful, it requires information sharing by families and professionals.

NOTES



Kentucky Early Childhood Transition Project- Supporting Families and Professionals of KY

Phone: 859.257.1267

Email: Brenda..Mullins@uky.edu

Denise.Scheler@uky.edu

Transition from First Steps into Preschool—FAST FACTS About the Journey



Transition is a process, not an event.

Kentucky Early Childhood Transition Project- Supporting Families and Professionals of KY

**Brenda Mullins, Project Coordinator
Denise Scheler, Development Specialist**

Fast Facts to Assist Families at the Transition Conference

Children receiving early intervention services in First Steps should be prepared to transition into preschool services by their third birthday. All families should **give permission** to their Primary Service Coordinator to have the Transition Conference and explore preschool options and save the decision making of “sending or not” sending their child after eligibility is determined.

All service options for preschool children with disabilities will be discussed with parents at the Transition Conference. Other discussion items will be: the application and referral process for community options, types of information you need to make an informed decision; arrangements to visit programs; information and records sharing; and steps that may be taken to prepare your child, the family, and potential program staff to assure a smooth and effective transition for everyone involved. All this information will be captured in the “Transition Plan”. The School District is a key player regardless of what your decision may be after you have completed the transition process. **Give permission** for referral.

FIRST STEPS

The Lead agency to serve children with disabilities birth to 3 years of age.

First Steps provides services (if child meet eligibility criteria) with a focus on helping to meet the needs of both the eligible child and family. The program is implemented in natural environments for the child and family. First Steps uses an individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) to meet needs of the child and family.

THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The lead agency to serve children with disabilities at the 3rd birthday.

The school district provides a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to children who meet eligibility requirements and will focus on the child and his/her unique educational needs in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) using an Individualized Education Program (IEP).



Parent and child can prepare for transition into preschool.

WHAT ROLE DOES THE FAMILY PLAY IN THE TRANSITION PROCESS?

The local community in collaboration with the school district and other agencies work together to provide a variety of services to meet individual needs of your child and family. The family members are active participants in the transition process with the school. Becoming familiar with the law may help. The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) includes two key parts for children with disabilities. Your child has been served in First Steps under Part C of IDEA, and if eligible, the school district under Part B will serve your child at the 3rd birthday. Your role in the transition process requires active participation at every step of the process: Giving permission for the Transition Conference, inviting the district with other options you are considering, giving permission to make a referral to the district at 90 calendar days prior to the 3rd birthday, attending the Admission and Release Committee (ARC) Meetings scheduled by the school district, and then - making the decision to send or not to send your child to the district's program or selecting another option.



Kentucky Early Childhood
Transition Project

Supporting Families and Professionals As They Travel the Road to Successful Transition Practice

Phone: 859.257.1267
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Denise.Scheler@uky.edu